

City of Shannon Hills, Arkansas
Regular City Council Meeting
June 8, 2004

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
The Mayor led the pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Present were Mayor Davis, Aldermen Gina Daniel, Mike Kemp, Rick Tribble, Linda Linkous, and Diane Everett and Recorder-Treasurer Curt Wilson.

Minutes of May 11, 2004 regular meeting were approved as presented. Motion to approve was made by Alderman Kemp, Second by Alderman Daniel. Approval was by voice vote with no opposition.

Financial Report: The Treasurer reported that the month of May was a hard month for the city financially. The General Fund expended about \$19,000.00 more than was received. The final settlement with three departing police officers combined with the annual payment on the police cars made for a much larger than normal outlay.

The May report was presented.

The Recorder-Treasurer reported that as of the end of May the city had:

General fund checking account ...	\$22,260.78
Radio Fund	\$222.53
Reader Board Fund.	\$305.92
Emergency Light Fund.	\$253.00
Cash Box (undeposited revenue)	\$537.09
Payroll Account	\$367.57
Stephens Account	<u>\$47,735.84</u>
Total General Fund Revenues ..	\$70,901.28

General Fund revenues for May totaled \$31, 836.51

Expenditures for May were \$50,862.78

Street Fund:

Checking Account	\$78,447.23
Stephens Account	<u>\$44,915.39</u>
Total Street fund assets	\$123,262.62

LOPFI: Ending Balance \$25,180.60

Following the verbal summary, there were several comments and questions. First Alderman Kemp urged the Recorder-Treasurer to do a full study of all accounts in preparation for mid year budget adjustments. Also Alderman Linkous noted that The March report, as provided earlier while using the old system did not match the figures for March that had been produced using the new system. She asked for a review and a determination as to why the difference existed. The Recorder-Treasurer agreed to review it, determine what caused the difference and report back at the next meeting.

Dept Head reports:

Fire Dept. (Mel Aldridge) Mel reported that for April the fire dept had 6 fire calls and 11 rescues. Mell completed the Certified Vol. Fire Management Class in May. And 1 Firefighter completed A class in Haz Mat Awareness. In May there were 4 fire calls and 5 rescues.

Alderman Linkous asked if the Fire Dept could begin providing some kind of financial report. Mel indicated that he would try to provide something although because of the timing of the meeting and activity within the Water Dept the figures may not be “up to Date.” (This is because Lucky would not have the time to produce the figures just prior to a meeting because that is the time of month that water accounts are so extremely active.

Police Department: Report

Report provided by Investigator Richard Friend who is currently serving as acting Chief. Acting Chief Friend provided a summary of police activity for May and submitted a written report that is filed in the Dept Head Reports Binder in the Recorder-Treasurer’s office and may be reviewed any time.

Officer Friend reported that during the month of May:

- Officers drove 1548 miles
- Received 27 calls for service
- 33 tickets were written
- 4 warrants were served
- 2 DWI Arrests

Officer Friend reported that the police department would be making some changes with the goal to increase accountability within the Dept., to increase productivity while reducing costs, and to get files and paperwork in order. He went on to describe several actions already underway that were expected to enhance our working relationship with several Law enforcement agencies in the state and nation.

Public Works (Water & Sewer and Street Depts.): (David Passmore)

Mr. Passmore submitted a written report and supplemented it with a verbal summary. Water samples were taken last month and the results showed that Shannon Hills water was clean and easily met all health and safety standards. The water department reported three water line breaks that were repaired in May. A major effort was made to mow and clean roadsides but a lot of rain and fast growth made that effort less noticeable. The department was called on to do thirty locates in the past thirty days. Being a member of the “One Call” network saves a lot of damage to lines. Also, a lift station pump had to be pulled and rebuilt last month.

The water Department Financial report reflected \$58,701.13 remaining in the Stephens account. Fire dues, transferd quarterly, took \$16,485.75 from the water & sewer account. \$21,783.97 was paid to Little Rock Wastewater. The end result is that the Dept took in \$31,080.00 in May while expenses totaled \$51,863.00.

Item 1. Replacement of Alderman Glenn Dinsmore:

There were two residents who indicated an interest in filling the position. The candidates were Mr. James Smith and Mr. Bobby Riley. Each candidate was permitted to address the council and respond to questions. Following their presentations the council members each wrote the name of the candidate they favored on a piece of paper and the votes were reviewed by the Mayor and confirmed by the Recorder.

Following the review of the preference votes, A motion was made by Alderman Kemp, with a second from Alderman Everett that Mr. Riley be appointed to the City Council As Alderman for Ward 2, Position 1 and that Mr. Smith be appointed to the Police Commission. The motion was approved via voice vote. There was no opposition.

Following the vote, Alderman Kemp moved that the council meeting recess in order to allow the new Alderman to be sworn in. Alderman Tribble provided a second. The motion was approved by voice vote and the council went into recess at 7:36.

Mr. Riley was administered the Oath of Office by Justice of the Peace Penny Kemp.

At 7:40pm the Council meeting reconvened with Alderman Riley taking his seat on the council.

Item 2. Resignation of Police Chief John Brown.

Having presented a letter of resignation to the Mayor approximately two weeks prior to this meeting, Chief Brown has requested an opportunity to address the council. Chief Brown thanked the council and the citizens of the city for giving him the opportunity to serve. He declared his last day of service to be June 30, 2004 or earlier if his application for disability was approved sooner. A written copy of his statement will be placed in his personnel file.

Following Chief Brown's statement, Alderman Kemp moved that the Council accept Chief Brown's resignation effective June 30, 2004. A second was provided by Alderman Tribble. The motion was approved by voice vote with no opposition.

A motion was made by Alderman Kemp that the rules be suspended and that Mr. Tim Lemons be added to the Agenda. Alderman Riley provided a second. Motion was approved by voice vote with no opposition.

Item 3. Council addressed by Mr. Tim Lemons concerning the Sewer and water projects currently underway. First he reported that the *design* of the sewer grant project was complete. The approval process, which involves several agencies, is underway and is expected to take about 30 days.

With respect to the Water and Sewer bond issue projects, it was reported that the soil tests were underway and so far all looks good. Soil tests for water tank site is also progressing. One concern is that the water tank is almost 100% steel and the increasing costs of steel recently is having an impact on the projected costs of the project. A site map for the water tank was shown and it was stated that Central Arkansas Water had 16 inch lines in the area and that tying in would not be a problem.

There has been no response to our offer of the land to be used for the sewer plant site. He owner has 30 days to respond and that time is almost up.

Item 4. Mr. Doug Loftin made himself available to respond to questions about property developments in Southfork, Carrington place and future developments in Shannon Hills. He responded to one question about property owners association dues that he would contact some of the owners who were not paying in a timely manner and encourage them to get caught up. Which would be better than a member officer having to approach a neighbor.

A question was posed concerning how the land to be developed would connect to Carrington Place. Mr. Loftin stated that at first, the main street into the new development area would be the entry street into Carrington place. Later the main entry to the new area will be an extension of County Line road. He assured current homeowners that homes build bear by would be very similar to the existing homes in size, appearance and value.

A third area of discussion had to do with drainage, (rain water run-off), in the existing residential areas and the effect of additional development in the area. It was agreed that planning for run-off and prevention of wash-outs and property damage was important. However, it had to be recognized that certain amounts of rainfall could overcome even the best planning and design efforts.

There are between 600 and 700 acres on and around Alexander Mountain, owned by several separate landowners that will annex with Shannon Hills at the same time. Since all owners are agreeable and desire annexation there will be no need for a vote or any special public action.

Item 5. Establishing July 1, 2004 as the date of implementation of new water and sewer rates and authorizing distribution of letter announcing the new rates and effective date.

A motion was made by Alderman Kemp to establish July 1, 2004 as the effective date for the new water rates and to authorize distribution of a letter announcing said increase to the water and sewer customers. The motion received a second from Alderman Riley. A Roll Call vote was conducted With Alderman Linkous voting “No” and Aldermen Everett, Daniel, Kemp, Riley and Tribble voting “Yes”. The motion passed 5 for, 1 against.

Item 6. Acting Police Chief Richard Friend Addressed the Council.

Acting Chief Friend encouraged the council to make some General Fund Line Item adjustments. Specifically he pointed to over \$5000.00 of unspent money in the Employee Health Insurance line and asked that it be moved to the several salary lines that were adversely effected with the recent pay outs to departing officers.

Acting Chief Friend announced that he was implementing procedures to help avoid the massive types of pay outs such as have occurred in the past due to officers accruing large amounts of sick and “comp” hours.

Because plans are already in place to have a mid-year budget amendment meeting in two weeks, no action was voted at this time.

Item 7. Change of meeting time.

Acting on a suggestion from the Mayor, Alderman Everett made a motion to change the meeting time from 7:00pm to 6:30pm effective immediately. A second was provided by Alderman Daniel. A voice vote was conducted and the motion passed with no opposition.

Comments From The Floor:

Mr. Dan Arnold expressed appreciation for quality and professionalism displayed by the current police department. He also expressed concern about how long the council allowed the "Leave With Pay" status to stay in effect with respect to the current Chief. The Mayor agreed that, in reality, the city probably did allow that status to continue a little longer than would be normal. However, he went on to say that although future issues may not be handled in the same manner, it would not be reasonable to ask for any of the payments to the retiring Chief to be refunded.

Additional discussion centered on the purpose and function of the newly formed Police Commission, patrol practices, and other related issues.

Mr. Doug Loftin expressed a need for increased patrol in cases where damage or theft of materials became a problem.

Ms. Barriage asked about the city doing something to restrict on street parking and speeding on her street. The Mayor confirmed that the Council had already approved the placement of speed bumps and improvements in the areas of concern were forthcoming.

Other comments were too faint to hear on the tape recording...

A motion to Adjourn was made by Alderman Kemp with a second from Alderman Daniel. Motion was approved with voice vote. There was no opposition. Meeting stood adjourned at 9:00pm.

Date: _____

Approved: _____
Larance Davis, Mayor

Attest: _____
Curt Wilson, Recorder-Treasurer